Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 EB-08 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-07 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 CAB-02 DODE-00 DOTE-00 FAA-00 L-03 SS-15 NSC-05 /093 W -------117522 230111Z/64

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6084

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

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BRUSSELS FOR USEEC AND FAA

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EAIR, EC, GW

SUBJECT: EC AIRCRAFT POLICY

REF: A. STATE 42223 B. BRUSSELS 2624 C. BONN 3004

1. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT FRG WOULD HAVE NO DIFFICULTY ACCEPTING EC COMMISSION POSITION ON AIRCRAFT PRODUCTION AS STATED IN REF B. FRG HAS MAJOR FINANCIAL, EMPLOYMENT AND PRESTIGE STAKE IN SUCCESS OF ITS AEROSPACE INDUSTRY, MAINLY IN FORM OF JOINT PROJECTS WITH OTHER EUROPEAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COUNTRIES. FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RECOGNIZES THAT EUROPEAN INDUSTRY IS HIGH-COST AND ACCEPTS NECESSITY TO SUBSIDIZE PROJECTS WHILE BELIEVING THAT EUROPEAN INDUSTRY HAS PROVED ITS ABILITY, NOTABLY THROUGH AIRBUS A-300, TO COMPETE WITH U.S. ON A TECHNICAL LEVEL. GIVEN NEED TO SUBSIDIZE INDUSTRY AND PRESTIGE INVOLVED IN PROJECTS, FRG SENSITIVE TO ANY LACK OF RECIPROCITY ON PART OF US,

WHETHER IT BE TARIFFS OR FORMAL OR INFORMAL BUY AMERICA POLICIES.

- 2. ON MATTER OF PROCEEDING WITH FAMILY OF AIRBUS DERIVATIVES, FRG WOULD ADD CAVEAT THAT ANY PROJECT WOULD HAVE TO BE ON BASIS OF SUFFICIENT LAUNCH ORDERS. FRG AT PRESENT MAINLY CONCERNED IN CIVIL FIELD WITH PRESENT MODELS OF AIRBUS AND WITH THE B-10 DERIVATIVE. FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WOULD FAVOR A SMALLER STANDARD BODY 160 TO 180 SEATER PROJECT AS WELL, SO LONG AS PRIORITY OF B-10 IS CLEAR. THIS SMALLER AIRCRAFT AS WE UNDERSTAND IT WOULD NOT BE IN ANY SENSE AN AIRBUS DERIVATIVE ALTHOUGH IT MIGHT BE BUILT BY AIRBUS INDUSTRIE.
- 3. SIMILARLY, WHILE FAVORING IN PRINCIPLE AN EC POLICY ON AEROSPACE COOPERATION AND COORDINATION, FRG INTEREST AND ACTIVITY FOCUSES ON DEALINGS WITH FRENCH AND BRITISH, THE POTENTIAL PARTNERS IN THE PROJECTS OF SPECIAL INTEREST, RATHER THAN THE EC PER SE.
- 4. AT A RECENT DISCUSSION (REF C) AN OFFICIAL OF THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ECONOMICS MADE A SPECIAL POINT OF STATEMENT ON COOPERATION WITH US INDUSTRY THAT ESSENTIALLY IS THE SAME AS THAT IN PARA 2 E OF REF B.

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